



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P. O. BOX 4970  
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32232-0019

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

Planning Division  
Environmental Branch

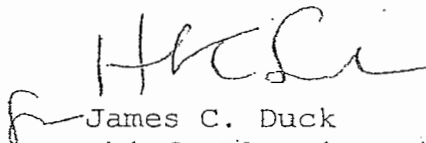
SEP 30 1999

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

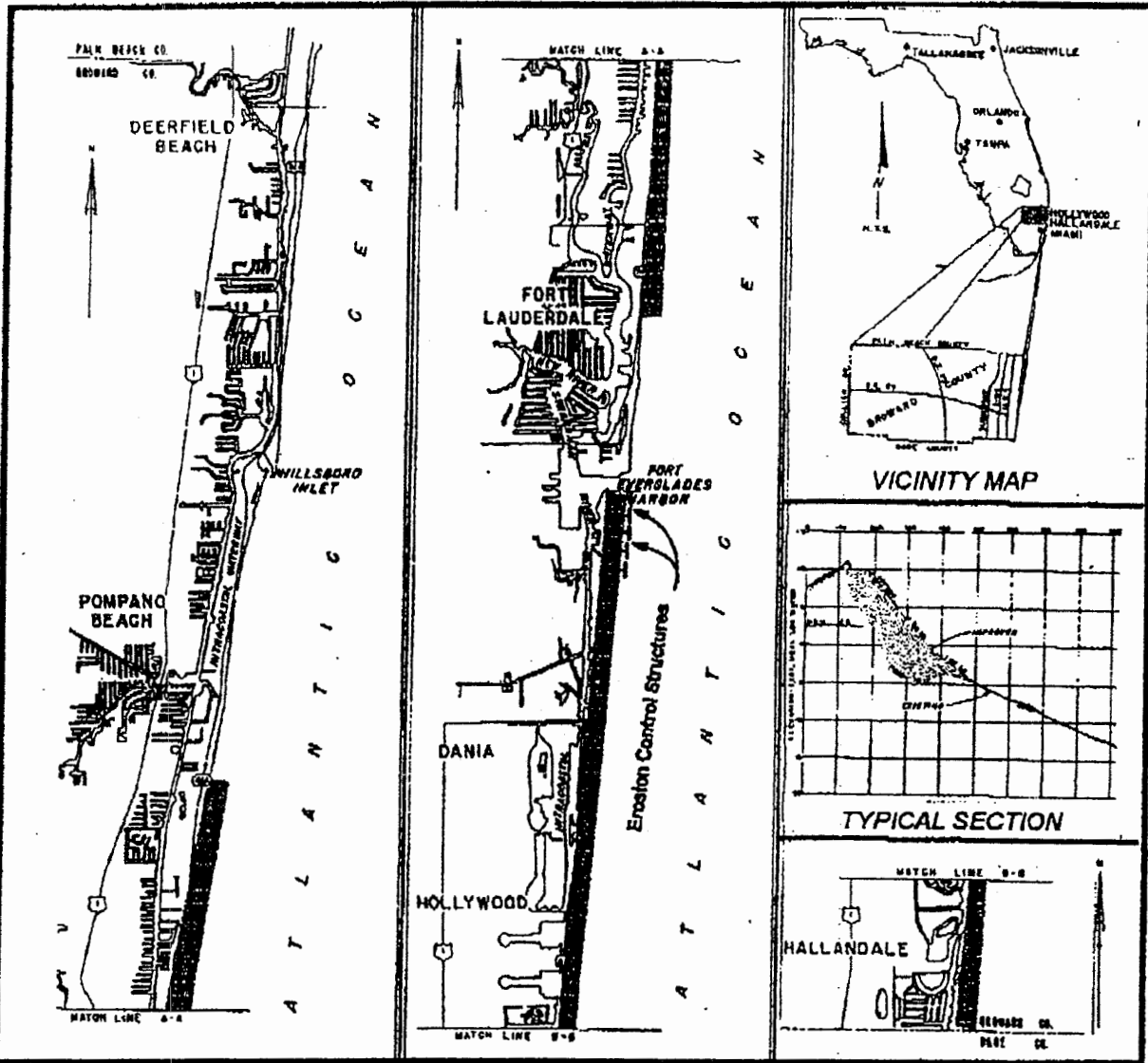
I have enclosed a Notice of Intent to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement on renourishment of the beach in Broward County from Hillsboro Inlet to the Dade County line using sand from several borrow sites in the Atlantic Ocean off Broward County (see enclosed map). If you have any comments, please submit them in accordance with the notice.

If you are a property owner along the Broward County shoreline and you wish to be included on our mailing list for future notices on this project, please let me know at the letterhead address. Otherwise, you will not receive any further correspondence from this office (you will not receive notice of any public hearing or meeting or the notice of availability of the Environmental Impact Statement).

Sincerely,

  
James C. Duck  
Chief, Planning Division

Enclosures



0 1 2  
Approx. Map Scale in Miles

**PROJECT SITE MAP**

Adapted from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Authorization Map

**Proposed Beach Fill**

Note: Width of beach fill and size of erosion control structures not to scale. Locations and extent of structures and fill subject to design and permitting considerations.

**BROWARD COUNTY  
SHORE PROTECTION PROJECT**

Broward County, Florida  
Department of  
Natural Resource Protection

**BROWARD COUNTY**

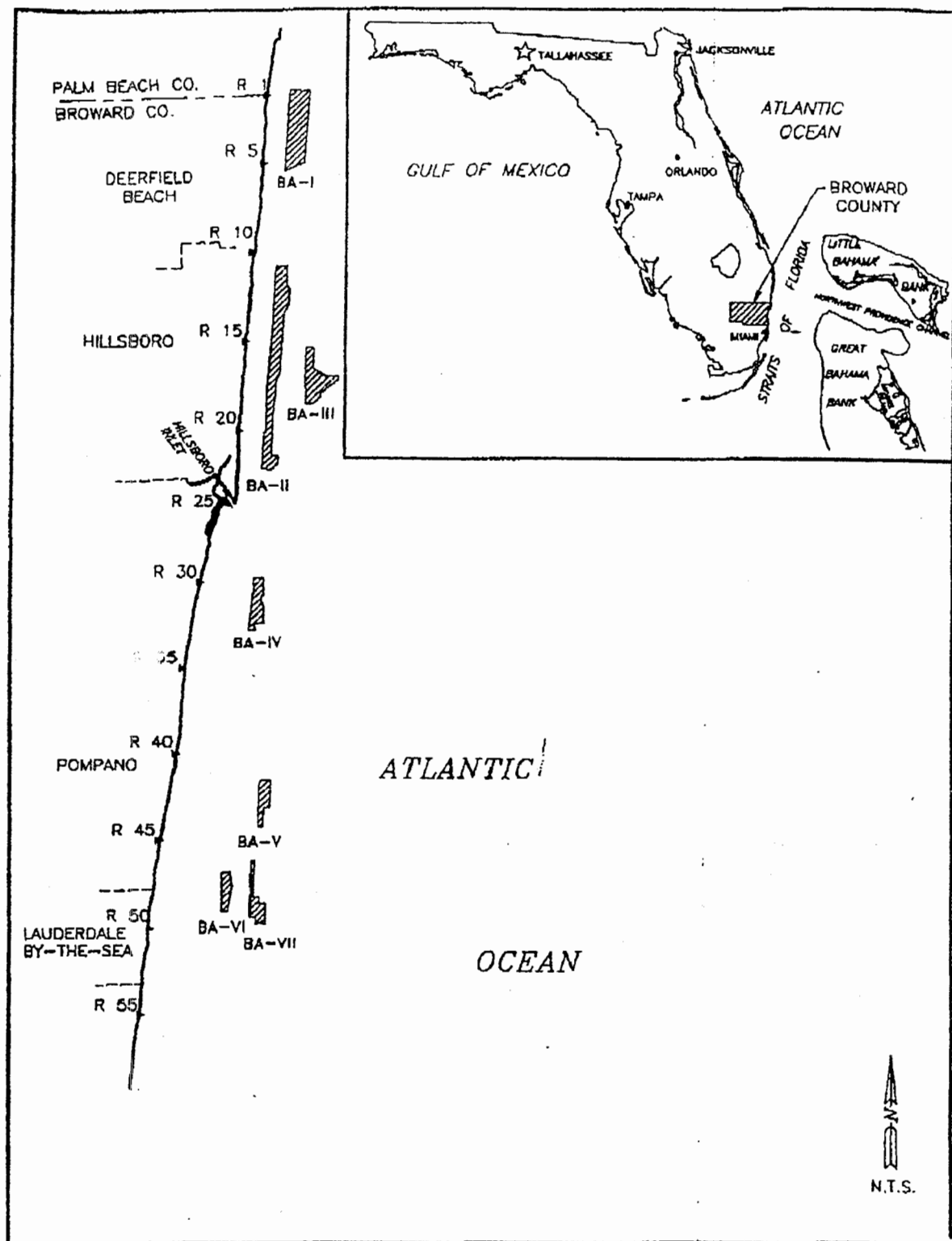


FIGURE 2.1.5

# BROWARD COUNTY LOCATION MAP WITH BORROW AREAS

Source: Geotechnical Study of Offshore Sand Deposits for Beach Renourishment in Broward County, Florida. CPE. July 1997.

7  
COASTAL PLANNING & ENGINEERING, INC.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA, 32202

Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Broward County Beach Erosion Control Project in Broward County, Florida.

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense

COOPERATING AGENCY: Broward County Department of Planning and Environmental Protection

ACTION: Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: The Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers intends to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for construction of appropriate reaches of Segments II (Hillsboro Inlet to Port Everglades) and III (Port Everglades to South County Line) of the Broward County Beach Erosion Control Project. The project is a cooperative effort between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (lead Federal agency) and Broward County Department of Planning and Environmental Protection (cooperating agency).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kenneth Dugger, 904-232-1686, Environmental Branch, Planning Division, P.O. Box 4970, Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Broward County, Florida, Beach Erosion Control and Navigation Project was authorized by Public Law (PL), Public Works-River and Harbor (79 Stat. 1073) passed 27 October 1965 in accordance with the recommendations of the Chief of Engineers in House Document 91, 89<sup>th</sup> Congress. Authorization for periodic beach nourishment of the project was extended to 50 years from the date of original construction by Section 506(a) (1) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996. The project will involve placement of approximately 3.5 million cubic yards of material along 17.35 miles of Broward County's coastline. The authorized project includes two segments. In Segment II (Hillsboro Inlet to Port Everglades), fill will be placed along beaches in southern Pompano Beach, Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, and northern and central Fort Lauderdale. In Segment III (Port Everglades to the south County line), fill will be placed along the entire segment, including John U. Lloyd Beach State recreation Area, Dania

Beach, Hollywood, and Hallandale Beach. Fill will be obtained from seven discrete borrow areas located offshore of the central and northern portion of the County. Previous beach fill construction, totaling approximately twelve miles of beach length, has occurred twice in Segment II (Pompano Beach/Lauderdale-By-The-Sea in 1970 and 1983) and twice each in two areas of Segment III (John U. Lloyd Beach State Recreation Area in 1976 and 1989, and Hollywood/Hallandale in 1979 and 1991). Authorization for Federal participation in periodic beach nourishment of Segment II expires in 2020 and in Segment III in 2030.

*Alternatives:* Alternatives considered include no action, continued nourishment of previously restored areas, initial restoration of previously unconstructed areas, modifications to beach fill amounts, widths, elevations, and/or extent, construction of groins and/or breakwaters, and beach fill/groin combination. Alternative sand sources in addition to the use of a borrow area for nourishment, include the use of other sand sources such as upland sources, Bahamian sand, other foreign sands, or other distant sources.

*Issues:* The EIS will consider impacts on coral reefs and other hardbottom communities, protected species, shore protection, health and safety, water quality, aesthetics and recreation, fish and wildlife resources, cultural resources, energy conservation, socio-economic resources, and other impacts identified through scoping, public involvement, and interagency coordination.

*Scoping:* The scoping process will involve Federal, State, County and municipal agencies and other interested persons and organizations. A scoping letter will be sent to interested organizations and individuals and to Federal, State, County, and municipal agencies, requesting their comments and concerns.

*Public Involvement:* We invite the participation of affected Federal, State and local agencies, affected Indian tribes, and other interested private organizations and parties. At this time, we have no plans to hold a public scoping meeting.

*Coordination:* The proposed action is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service under Section 7

of the Endangered Species Act, with the FWS under the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, and with the State Historic Preservation Officer.

*Other Environmental Review and Consultation:* The proposed action would involve evaluation for compliance with guidelines pursuant to Section 404 (b) of the Clean Water Act; application (to the State of Florida) for Water Quality Certification pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act; certification of state lands, easements, and rights of way; and determination of Coastal Zone Management Act consistency.

*Agency Role:* As cooperating agency, non-Federal sponsor, and leading local expert; the Broward County Department of Planning and Environmental Protection, Biological Resources Division, will provide extensive information and assistance on the resources to be impacted, mitigation measures, and alternatives.

*DEIS Preparation:* It is estimated that the DEIS will be available to the public by January 2000.





DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P. O. BOX 4970  
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32232-0019

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

CESAJ-PD-ER (1110-2-1150a)

OCT 01 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, U.S. Army Publishing and Records  
Management Center, ATTN: (Mr. Showalter)  
6000 Sixth Street, Stop C55  
Fort Belvoir, Virginia 22060-5576

SUBJECT: Notice of Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental  
Impact Statement

Enclosed for publication in the Federal Register, are three  
signed copies of the Notice of Intent to prepare a Draft  
Environmental Impact Statement for the Broward County Shore  
Protection Project, Segments II and III, Broward County,  
Florida. The Billing Code is 3710-AJ.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Encl

JAMES C. DUCK  
Chief, Planning Division

CF (w/encl):

Commander, South Atlantic Division (CESAD-ET-P)



BILLING CODE: 3710-AJ

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

CORPS OF ENGINEERS, DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA, 32202

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COOPERATING AGENCY: Broward County Department of Planning  
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*DEIS Preparation:* It is estimated that the DEIS will be available to the public by January 2000.

10-1-99  
DATE

James C. Duck  
JAMES C. DUCK  
CHIEF, PLANNING DIVISION



Lauderdale Beach Hotel

"The Perfect Location"™

December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1999

Mr. James C. Duck, Chief  
Planning Division, Environmental Branch  
Department of the Army  
Jacksonville District Corps of Engineers  
P.O. Box 4970  
Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019

RE: Broward County Beach Nourishment Project.

Dear Mr. Duck,

Thank you for the information which was mailed to us regarding the future beach nourishment project for Broward County, Florida.

I proudly hold a seat on the Board of Governors for the Beach Council of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce. The project you propose is of great interest to the Beach Council members. Unfortunately, the site map reflecting the proposed beach fill area does not include the southern portion of Fort Lauderdale Beach from Port Everglades, and approximately 1 or 2 miles to the North. This area is the busiest area in terms of public use and tourism commerce. I feel that this area must be included as a fill site. This area is responsible for millions of tax dollars brought in by the beach's commercial businesses and residential properties. This area is in desperate need of a re-nourishment. Our beach has experienced a tremendous amount of erosion from wind, surf, and tides. Each year we experience flooding along State Road A1A, placing the public and beach businesses at risk. Please take all measures necessary to include this area in the beach nourishment project.

Additionally, I would like to be included on all future mailings or notices regarding this project. Please forward all correspondence to:

Mr. Alan F. Forgea, General Manager  
Lauderdale Beach Hotel  
101 South Fort Lauderdale Beach Boulevard  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316

Thank you for your time and consideration with respect to the vital portion of Fort Lauderdale Beach.

Very truly yours,

LAUDERDALE BEACH HOTEL

Alan F. Forgea, General Manager

Sent via fax &amp; regular U.S. Mail

South  
Florida  
Regional  
Planning  
Council



December 3, 1999

RECEIVED  
DECEMBER 3 1999  
SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Ms. Cherie Trainor  
Florida State Clearinghouse  
Department of Community Affairs  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

State of Florida Clearinghouse

RE: SFRPC #99-1123, SAI #FL9911080881C - Response to a request for comments on the Notice of Intent to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement on renourishment of the beach from the Hillsboro Inlet to Miami-Dade County, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Broward County.

Dear Ms. Trainor:

We have reviewed the above-referenced project and have the following comments:

- The project, as proposed, is generally consistent with the goals and policies of the *Strategic Regional Policy Plan for South Florida* (SRPP). Council staff recognizes that the proposed project is necessary to improve navigation and reduce sand loss.
- Beaches and dune systems are identified as natural resources of regional significance in the SRPP. Staff supports the use of buffer zones to protect these important resources. Sand movement and downdrift erosion should be monitored on a region wide basis to ensure the livelihood of wildlife habitats and the stability of the project area. All actions should be consistent with the goals and policies of the appropriate local government comprehensive plan.
- Staff recommends that, if the proposed actions are implemented, 1) impacts to the natural systems be minimized to the greatest extent feasible and 2) the permit grantor determine the extent of sensitive marine life and vegetative communities in the vicinity of each project and require protection and or mitigation of disturbed habitat. These guidelines will assist in reducing the cumulative impacts to native plants and animals, wetlands and deep water habitat and fisheries that the goals and policies of the *Strategic Regional Policy Plan for South Florida* seek to protect.
- The goals and policies of the *Strategic Regional Policy Plan for South Florida*, in particular those indicated below, should be observed when making decisions regarding this project.

Strategic Regional Goal

- 3.1 Eliminate the inappropriate uses of land by improving the land use designations and utilize land acquisition where necessary so that the quality and connectedness of Natural Resources of Regional Significance and suitable high quality natural areas is improved.

## Regional Policies

- 3.1.9 Degradation or destruction of Natural Resources of Regional Significance, including listed species and their habitats will occur as a result of a proposed project only if :
- a) the activity is necessary to prevent or eliminate a public hazard, and
  - b) the activity is in the public interest and no other alternative exists, and
  - c) the activity does not destroy significant natural habitat, or identified natural resource values, and
  - d) the activity does not destroy habitat for threatened or endangered species, and
  - e) the activity does not negatively impact listed species that have been documented to use or rely upon the site.
- 3.1.10 Proposed projects shall include buffer zones between development and existing Natural Resources of Regional Significance and other suitable natural resources. The buffer zones shall provide natural habitat values and functions that compliment Natural Resources of Regional Significance values so that the natural system values of the site are not negatively impacted by adjacent uses. The buffer zones shall be a minimum of 25 feet in width. Alternative widths may be proposed if it is demonstrated that the alternative furthers the viability of the Natural Resource of Regional Significance, effectively separating the development impacts from the natural resource or contributing to reduced fragmentation of identified Natural Resources of Regional Significance.
- 3.1.11 Implement monitoring and maintenance of Natural Resources of Regional Significance and other suitable natural resources so that an Overall Positive Gain in quality and quantity of the Natural Resources of Regional Significance is achieved. The monitoring of the Natural Resources of Regional Significance shall be included on all projects that have not been demonstrated to not adversely impact the resource or associated listed species.
- 3.1.19 Uses of the land shall be consistent with the sustained ecological functioning of the Natural Resources of Regional Significance and suitable adjacent natural buffer areas and will be based upon the radius required to provide protection to the natural system and associated inhabitants. The radius will vary in size depending upon the resource or species that is to be protected.

## Strategic Regional Goal

- 3.8 Enhance and preserve natural system values of South Florida's shorelines, estuaries, benthic communities, fisheries, and associated habitats, including but not limited to, Florida Bay, Biscayne Bay and the coral reef tract.

## Regional Policies

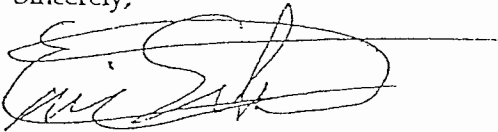
- 3.8.1 Enhance and preserve natural shoreline characteristics through requirements resulting from the review of proposed projects and in the implementation of ICE, including but not limited to, mangroves, beaches and dunes through prohibition of structural shoreline stabilization methods except to protect existing navigation channels, maintain reasonable riparian access, or allow an activity in the public interest as determined by applicable state and federal permitting criteria.



- 3.8.2 Enhance and preserve benthic communities, including but not limited to seagrass and shellfish beds, and coral habitats, by allowing only that dredge and fill activity, artificial shading of habitat areas, or destruction from boats that is the least amount practicable, and by encouraging permanent mooring facilities: Dredge and fill activities may occur on submerged lands in the Florida Keys only as permitted by the Monroe County Land Development Regulations. It must be demonstrated pursuant to the review of the proposed project features that the activities included in the proposed project do not cause permanent, adverse natural system impacts.
- 3.8.3 As a result of proposed project reviews, include conditions that result in a project that enhances and preserves marine and estuarine water quality by:
- a) improving the timing and quality of freshwater inflows;
  - b) reducing turbidity, nutrient loading and bacterial loading from wastewater facilities and vessels;
  - c) reducing the number of improperly maintained stormwater systems; and
  - d) requiring port facilities and marinas to implement hazardous materials spill plans.
- 3.8.4 Enhance and preserve commercial and sports fisheries through monitoring, research, best management practices for fish harvesting and protection of nursery habitat and include the resulting information in educational programs throughout the region. Identified nursery habitat shall be protected through the inclusion of suitable habitat protective features including, but not limited to:
- a) avoidance of project impacts within habitat area;
  - b) replacement of habitat area impacted by proposed project; or
  - c) improvement of remaining habitat area within remainder of proposed project area.
- 3.8.5 Enhance and preserve habitat for endangered and threatened marine species by the preservation of identified endangered species habitat and populations. For threatened species or species of critical concern, on-site preservation will be required unless it is demonstrated that off-site mitigation will not adversely impact the viability or number of individuals of the species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. We would appreciate being kept informed on the progress of this project. Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,



Eric Silva  
Senior Planner

ES/cp

cc: Steve Somerville, Broward County DPEP  
Stephen Higgins, Broward County



STATE OF FLORIDA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

*"Dedicated to making Florida a better place to call home"*

JEB BUSH  
Governor

STEVEN M. SEIBERT  
Secretary

December 14, 1999

Mr. Kenneth Dugger  
Department of the Army  
Jacksonville District Corps of Engineers  
Environmental Branch, Planning Division  
Post Office Box 4970  
Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019

RE: Department of the Army - Jacksonville District Corps of  
Engineers - Notice of Intent to Prepare a Draft  
Environmental Impact Statement on Renourishment of the  
Beach in Broward County from Hillsboro Inlet to the  
Dade County Line - Broward County, Florida  
SAI: FL9911080881C

Dear Mr. Dugger:

The Florida State Clearinghouse, pursuant to Presidential  
Executive Order 12372, Gubernatorial Executive Order 95-359, the  
Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1451-1464, as amended,  
and the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321,  
4331-4335, 4341-4347, as amended, has coordinated a review of the  
above-referenced project.

The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) notes  
that, under the operating agreement between the Department of  
Environmental Protection (DEP) and the water management  
districts, this project will be reviewed by DEP. Please refer to  
the enclosed DEP comments.

Based on the information contained in the notification of  
intent and the enclosed comments provided by our reviewing  
agencies, the state has determined that, at this stage, the  
above-referenced project is consistent with the Florida Coastal  
Management Program (FCMP). All subsequent environmental  
documents prepared for this project must be reviewed to determine

2555 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD • TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-2100  
Phone: 850.488.8466/Suncom 278.8466 FAX: 850.921.0781/Suncom 291.0781  
Internet address: <http://www.dca.state.fl.us>

FLORIDA KEYS  
Area of Critical State Concern Field Office  
2796 Overseas Highway, Suite 212  
Marathon, Florida 33050-2227

GREEN SWAMP  
Area of Critical State Concern Field Office  
205 East Main Street, Suite 104  
Bartow, Florida 33830-4641

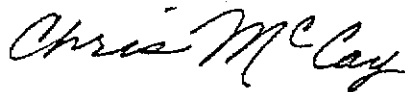
Mr. Kenneth Dugger  
December 14, 1999  
Page Two

the project's continued consistency with the FCMP. The state's continued concurrence with the project will be based, in part, on the adequate resolution of issues identified during this and subsequent reviews.

In addition, the South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) offers several comments and has identified the policies and goals of its Strategic Regional Policy Plan which may apply to the proposed activity. The comments provided by the SFRPC are enclosed for your review and consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this notice. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Ms. Cherie Trainor, Clearinghouse Coordinator, at (850) 414-5495.

Sincerely,



Ralph Cantral, Executive Director  
Florida Coastal Management Program

RC/cc

Enclosures

cc: Jim Golden, South Florida Water Management District  
Eric Silva, South Florida Regional Planning Council

COUNTY: Broward

DATE: 11/08/1999

COMMENTS DUE-2 WKS: 11/23/1999

CLEARANCE DUE DATE: 12/17/1999

SAI#: FL9911080881C

Message:

STATE AGENCIES

WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS

OPB POLICY UNITS

Community Affairs  
Environmental Protection  
Fish, & Wildlife Conserv. Comm  
State  
X Transportation

South Florida WMD

Environmental Policy/C & ED

RECEIVED  
NOV 18 1999  
State of Florida Clearinghouse

The attached document requires a Coastal Zone Management Act/Florida Coastal Management Program consistency evaluation and is categorized as one of the following:

Federal Assistance to State or Local Government (15 CFR 930, Subpart F). Agencies are required to evaluate the consistency of the activity.

X Direct Federal Activity (15 CFR 930, Subpart C). Federal Agencies are required to furnish a consistency determination for the State's concurrence or objection.

Outer Continental Shelf Exploration, Development or Production Activities (15 CFR 930, Subpart E). Operators are required to provide a consistency certification for state concurrence/objection.

Federal Licensing or Permitting Activity (15 CFR 930, Subpart D). Such projects will only be evaluated for consistency when there is not an analogous state license or permit.

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U.S. Department of the Army - Jacksonville  
District Corps of Engineers - Notice of Intent to  
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on Renourishment of the Beach in Broward  
County from Hillsboro Inlet to the Dade County  
Line - Broward County, Florida.

To: Florida State Clearinghouse  
Department of Community Affairs  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100  
(850) 922-5438 (SC 292-5438)  
(850) 414-0479 (FAX)

EO. 12372/NEPA

Federal Consistency

☒ No Comment  
☐ Comments Attached  
☐ Not Applicable

☒ No Comment/Consistent  
☐ Consistent/Comments Attached  
☐ Inconsistent/Comments Attached  
☐ Not Applicable

From:

Division/Bureau: F-DO T

Reviewer: Jandra Pittman

Date: 11/19/99

*W. W. W. W.*

COUNTY: Broward

DATE: 11/08/1999

COMMENTS DUE-2 WKS: 11/23/1999

Message:

CLEARANCE DUE DATE: 12/17/1999

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STATE AGENCIES	WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS	OPB POLICY UNITS
Community Affairs Environmental Protection Fish & Wildlife Conserv. Comm State Transportation	South Florida WMD	X Environmental Policy/C & ED
	RECEIVED NOV 25 1999 State of Florida Clearinghouse	RECEIVED NOV 15 1999 OFFICE OF PLANNING & BUDGETING ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY UNIT

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To: Florida State Clearinghouse	EO. 12372/NEPA	Federal Consistency
Department of Community Affairs 2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100 (850) 922-5438 (SC 292-5438) (850) 414-0479 (FAX)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Comment <input type="checkbox"/> Comments Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> No Comment/Consistent <input type="checkbox"/> Consistent/Comments Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Inconsistent/Comments Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable

from:  
Division/Bureau: OPB/Environmental Policy  
Reviewer: Carl A. Johnson  
Date: 11-17-99

COUNTY: Broward

Message:

DATE: 11/08/1999  
COMMENTS DUE-2 WKS: 11/23/1999  
CLEARANCE DUE DATE: 12/17/1999  
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Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100  
(850) 922-5438 (SC 292-5438)  
(850) 414-0479 (FAX)

EO. 12372/NEPA

Federal Consistency

- ☐ No Comment
- ☐ Comments Attached
- ☒ Not Applicable

- ☐ No Comment/Consistent
- ☐ Consistent/Comments Attached
- ☐ Inconsistent/Comments Attached
- ☒ Not Applicable

UNDER THE OPERATING AGREEMENT BETWEEN DEP AND THE WMDs,  
THIS PROJECT WILL BE REVIEWED BY DEP.

From:

Division/Bureau: ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE RESTORATION

Reviewer: JFM GOLDEN

Date: 11/15/99



December 3, 1999

RECEIVED  
DECEMBER 3 1999  
SFRPC

Ms. Cherie Trainor  
Florida State Clearinghouse  
Department of Community Affairs  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

State of Florida Clearinghouse

RE: SFRPC #99-1123, SAI #FL9911080881C - Response to a request for comments on the Notice of Intent to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement on renourishment of the beach from the Hillsboro Inlet to Miami-Dade County, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Broward County.

Dear Ms. Trainor:

We have reviewed the above-referenced project and have the following comments:

- The project, as proposed, is generally consistent with the goals and policies of the *Strategic Regional Policy Plan for South Florida* (SRPP). Council staff recognizes that the proposed project is necessary to improve navigation and reduce sand loss.
- Beaches and dune systems are identified as natural resources of regional significance in the SRPP. Staff supports the use of buffer zones to protect these important resources. Sand movement and downdrift erosion should be monitored on a region wide basis to ensure the livelihood of wildlife habitats and the stability of the project area. All actions should be consistent with the goals and policies of the appropriate local government comprehensive plan.
- Staff recommends that, if the proposed actions are implemented, 1) impacts to the natural systems be minimized to the greatest extent feasible and 2) the permit grantor determine the extent of sensitive marine life and vegetative communities in the vicinity of each project and require protection and or mitigation of disturbed habitat. These guidelines will assist in reducing the cumulative impacts to native plants and animals, wetlands and deep water habitat and fisheries that the goals and policies of the *Strategic Regional Policy Plan for South Florida* seek to protect.
- The goals and policies of the *Strategic Regional Policy Plan for South Florida*, in particular those indicated below, should be observed when making decisions regarding this project.

#### Strategic Regional Goal

- 3.1 Eliminate the inappropriate uses of land by improving the land use designations and utilize land acquisition where necessary so that the quality and connectedness of Natural Resources of Regional Significance and suitable high quality natural areas is improved.

### Regional Policies

- 3.1.9 Degradation or destruction of Natural Resources of Regional Significance, including listed species and their habitats will occur as a result of a proposed project only if :
- a) the activity is necessary to prevent or eliminate a public hazard, and
  - b) the activity is in the public interest and no other alternative exists, and
  - c) the activity does not destroy significant natural habitat, or identified natural resource values; and
  - d) the activity does not destroy habitat for threatened or endangered species, and
  - e) the activity does not negatively impact listed species that have been documented to use or rely upon the site.
- 3.1.10 Proposed projects shall include buffer zones between development and existing Natural Resources of Regional Significance and other suitable natural resources. The buffer zones shall provide natural habitat values and functions that compliment Natural Resources of Regional Significance values so that the natural system values of the site are not negatively impacted by adjacent uses. The buffer zones shall be a minimum of 25 feet in width. Alternative widths may be proposed if it is demonstrated that the alternative furthers the viability of the Natural Resource of Regional Significance, effectively separating the development impacts from the natural resource or contributing to reduced fragmentation of identified Natural Resources of Regional Significance.
- 3.1.11 Implement monitoring and maintenance of Natural Resources of Regional Significance and other suitable natural resources so that an Overall Positive Gain in quality and quantity of the Natural Resources of Regional Significance is achieved. The monitoring of the Natural Resources of Regional Significance shall be included on all projects that have not been demonstrated to not adversely impact the resource or associated listed species.
- 3.1.19 Uses of the land shall be consistent with the sustained ecological functioning of the Natural Resources of Regional Significance and suitable adjacent natural buffer areas and will be based upon the radius required to provide protection to the natural system and associated inhabitants. The radius will vary in size depending upon the resource or species that is to be protected.

### Strategic Regional Goal

- 3.8 Enhance and preserve natural system values of South Florida's shorelines, estuaries, benthic communities, fisheries, and associated habitats. including but not limited to, Florida Bay, Biscayne Bay and the coral reef tract.

### Regional Policies

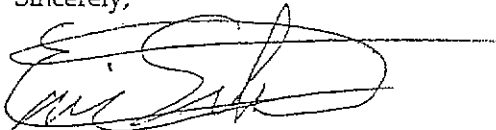
- 3.8.1 Enhance and preserve natural shoreline characteristics through requirements resulting from the review of proposed projects and in the implementation of ICE, including but not limited to, mangroves, beaches and dunes through prohibition of structural shoreline stabilization methods except to protect existing navigation channels, maintain reasonable riparian access, or allow an activity in the public interest as determined by applicable state and federal permitting criteria.



- 3.8.2 Enhance and preserve benthic communities, including but not limited to seagrass and shellfish beds, and coral habitats, by allowing only that dredge and fill activity, artificial shading of habitat areas, or destruction from boats that is the least amount practicable, and by encouraging permanent mooring facilities. Dredge and fill activities may occur on submerged lands in the Florida Keys only as permitted by the Monroe County Land Development Regulations. It must be demonstrated pursuant to the review of the proposed project features that the activities included in the proposed project do not cause permanent, adverse natural system impacts.
- 3.8.3 As a result of proposed project reviews, include conditions that result in a project that enhances and preserves marine and estuarine water quality by:
- a) improving the timing and quality of freshwater inflows;
  - b) reducing turbidity, nutrient loading and bacterial loading from wastewater facilities and vessels;
  - c) reducing the number of improperly maintained stormwater systems; and
  - d) requiring port facilities and marinas to implement hazardous materials spill plans.
- 3.8.4 Enhance and preserve commercial and sports fisheries through monitoring, research, best management practices for fish harvesting and protection of nursery habitat and include the resulting information in educational programs throughout the region. Identified nursery habitat shall be protected through the inclusion of suitable habitat protective features including, but not limited to:
- a) avoidance of project impacts within habitat area;
  - b) replacement of habitat area impacted by proposed project; or
  - c) improvement of remaining habitat area within remainder of proposed project area.
- 3.8.5 Enhance and preserve habitat for endangered and threatened marine species by the preservation of identified endangered species habitat and populations. For threatened species or species of critical concern, on-site preservation will be required unless it is demonstrated that off-site mitigation will not adversely impact the viability or number of individuals of the species

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. We would appreciate being kept informed on the progress of this project. Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,



Eric Silva  
Senior Planner

ES/cp

cc: Steve Somerville, Broward County DPEP  
Stephen Higgins, Broward County

## Doug Mann

---

**From:** Stevens, Charles F SAJ [Charles.F.Stevens@saj02.usace.army.mil]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 15, 1999 3:50 PM  
**To:** SHIGGINS@BROWARD.ORG  
**Cc:** Thomas.C.Birchett@saj02.usace.army.mil  
**Subject:** Re: Meeting of December 1, 1999



--DLNK0.RTF



--DLNK1.RTF



--DLNK2.RTF

Steve:

Please see the E-Mail from Tommy Birchett below regarding Cultural Resources investigations in the offshore borrow sites.  
----- Forwarded by Charles F Stevens/CESAJ/SAJ02 on 12/15/99 03:40 PM -----

Thomas C Birchett  
12/15/99 02:16 PM  
To: Charles F Stevens/CESAJ/SAJ02@CESAJ  
cc:  
Subject: Re: Meeting of December 1, 1999 <<Notes Link>>

Here's the list of sites to identify and evaluate. Sites will need to be physically examined and documented according to National Register criteria. National Register Bulletin 20 and HABS/HAER Publication "Guidelines for Recording Historic Ships" should be used as references.

The sites are: Borrow I - 1, 3, 8  
Borrow II - 9, 12, 13, 14  
Borrow III -  
Borrow IV - 16  
Borrow V - 23, 24, 25, 26  
Borrow VI - 27  
Borrow VII - 21, 22

While sites (1, 8, 9, 13, 16, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27) are out of the borrow area boundaries, they are within the "area of potential effect" and need to be examined.

Charles F Stevens  
12/07/99 03:46 PM  
To: STEPHEN HIGGINS@SHIGGINS@CO.BROWARD.FL.US@SMTP@EXCHANGE  
cc: Thomas C Birchett/CESAJ/SAJ02@CESAJ, Kenneth R Dugger/CESAJ/SAJ02@CESAJ  
Subject: Re: Meeting of December 1, 1999 <<Notes Link>>

Steve:

Tom Birchett will be able to complete this work during the week of Dec 13-17 as indicated in his message below.

Thomas C Birchett  
12/07/99 01:02 PM  
To: Charles F Stevens/CESAJ/SAJ02@CESAJ  
cc:  
Subject: Re: Meeting of December 1, 1999 <<Notes Link>>

I'll be able to review the report and come up with a list of sites to re-examine the week of Dec 13-17. TB

DIVISIONS OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Office of the Secretary  
Office of International Relations  
Division of Elections  
Division of Corporations  
Division of Cultural Affairs  
Division of Historical Resources  
Division of Library and Information Services  
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Department of Law Enforcement  
Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles  
Department of Veterans' Affairs

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Katherine Harris  
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES

Mr. Stephen Higgins  
Department of Planning and Environmental Protection  
Biological Resources Division, Broward County  
218 S.W. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

January 26, 2000

Post-It™ brand fax transmittal memo 7671		# of pages ▶ 1
To <i>DOUG RANN CHASE</i>	From <i>STEVE HIGGINS</i>	
Co.	Co.	
Dept. <i>904-384-7368</i>	Phone # <i>554-519-1265</i>	
Fax # <i>561-391-9116</i>	Fax # <i>554-519-1412</i>	

RE: DHR Project File No. 996161  
*Cultural Resources Archaeological Investigations of Potential Beach Nourishment Sand Borrow Sites Offshore of Broward County, Florida. By Coastal Planning and Engineering, Inc. July 1999.*

Dear Mr. Higgins:

In accordance with the procedures contained in 36 C.F.R., Part 800 ("Protection of Historic Properties"), as well as those contained in Chapter 267.061, *Florida Statutes*, implemented through 1A-46 *Florida Administrative Code*, we have reviewed the results of the field survey of the referenced project and find them to be complete and sufficient.

We apologize for the delay in our response and are providing this letter for your files. We had reviewed the above report on August 13, 1998 for the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, and had the following comments, which still stand:

We note that a total of 27 anomalies were located during the course of the survey, Sixteen (16) of which fell directly adjacent to the proposed borrow areas. Diver investigations were performed on 19 anomalies. Three anomalies (#12, 22 and 27) could not be visually identified. We concur with the findings and recommendations of the survey. However, it is the opinion of this agency that those anomalies not visually identified need to be ground truthed prior to dredging activities. The results of these investigations need to be forwarded to this office for review and comment.

If you have any questions concerning our comments, please contact Ms. Robin Jackson, Historic Sites Specialist at (850) 487-2333 or 1-(800) 847-7278. Your interest in protecting Florida's historic properties is appreciated.

Sincerely,

*Sandra A. Kameron*

Janet Snyder Matthews, Ph.D., Director  
Division of Historical Resources  
State Historic Preservation Officer

JSM/Jrj

R.A. Gray Building • 500 South Bronough Street • Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250 • <http://www.flheritage.com>

<input type="checkbox"/> Director's Office (850) 488-1480 • FAX: 488-3355	<input type="checkbox"/> Archaeological Research (850) 487-2299 • FAX: 414-2207	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Preservation (850) 487-2333 • FAX: 922-0496	<input type="checkbox"/> Historical Museums (850) 488-1484 • FAX: 921-2503
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic Pensacola Preservation Board (850) 595-5985 • FAX: 595-5989	<input type="checkbox"/> Palm Beach Regional Office (561) 279-1475 • FAX: 279-1476	<input type="checkbox"/> St. Augustine Regional Office (904) 825-5045 • FAX: 825-5044	<input type="checkbox"/> Tampa Regional Office (813) 272-3843 • FAX: 272-2340



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P. O. BOX 4970  
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32232-0019

MAR 01 2000

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF  
Planning Division  
Environmental Branch

FEB 28 2000

Mr. Charles A. Oravetz  
Chief, Protected Species Management Branch  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
9721 Executive Center Drive North  
St. Petersburg, Florida 33702

Dear Mr. Oravetz:

The Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), in a cooperative effort with Broward County, is proposing to renourish 17.35 miles of coastline in Broward County.

The project would involve placement of approximately 3.5 million cubic yards of material from Hillsboro Inlet to south County line along the beaches in southern Pompano, Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, northern and central Fort Lauderdale, John U. Lloyd Beach State Recreation Area, Dania Beach, Hollywood, and Hallandale Beach. In addition to the placement of sand on the beach, a series of T-head groins would be constructed along the northernmost  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile of John U. Lloyd State Recreation Area. Fill would be obtained from seven borrow areas located between hardbottom areas offshore of the central and northern portion of the County, in depths ranging from 30 feet to 70 feet, and located from  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles offshore. The method of dredging would be a hopper dredge. Rocks contained in the borrow material would be segregated on the hopper dredge and deposited in two offshore rock disposal areas, which are located within permitted artificial reef disposal areas. The material to be dredged and placed on the beach contains an average of 3.3% silt and 2.9% rock.

Listed species which may occur in the vicinity of the proposed work and are under the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) are: loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*, T), green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*, E), leatherback sea turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*, E), hawksbill sea turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*, E), finback whale (*Balaenoptera physalus*, E), humpback whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*, E), right whale (*Eubalaena*

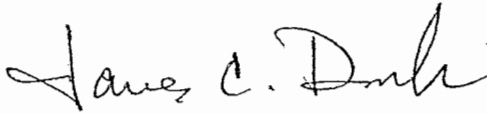
*glacialis*, E), sei whale (*Balaeniopera borealis*, E), and the sperm whale (*Physeter macrocephalus*, E).

The Corps has determined that the authorized project will have no effect on whales. However, the proposed project may affect sea turtles.

Since the beach renourishment contract will be administered by the sponsor, Broward County Board of County Commissioners, the terms and conditions set forth in the Regional Biological Opinion for the southeastern coast will be coordinated with them. Additionally, we are providing Broward County a copy of the Regional Biological Opinion with a copy of this letter.

We request your concurrence with our determination. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Ms. Yvonne Haberer at 904-232-1701.

Sincerely,



James C. Duck  
Chief, Planning Division

Copy Furnished:

✓ Mr. Stephen Higgins, Broward County, Beach Erosion Administrator, Department of Planning and Environmental Protection, 218 Southwest First Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301

Planning Division  
Environmental Branch

FEB 03 2000

Mr. Jay Slack  
Field Supervisor  
South Florida Field Office  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Post Office Box 2676  
Vero Beach, Florida 32960

Dear Mr. Slack:

The Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), in a cooperative effort with Broward County, is proposing to renourish 17.35 miles of coastline in Broward County, Florida from Hillsboro Inlet to south County line.

Pursuant to Section 7(a) of the Endangered Species Act, please find enclosed the Biological Assessment addressing the concerns of the threatened and endangered species under the purview of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The Corps has determined that the authorized project may affect nesting sea turtles, and, therefore requests that formal consultation with the USFWS be initiated.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Yvonne Haberer at 904-232-1701.

Sincerely,

James C. Duck  
Chief, Planning Division

Enclosure



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P. O. BOX 4970  
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32232-0019

MAR 01 2000

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF  
Planning Division  
Environmental Branch

FEB 28 2000

Mr. Charles A. Oravetz  
Chief, Protected Species Management Branch  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
9721 Executive Center Drive North  
St. Petersburg, Florida 33702

Dear Mr. Oravetz:

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The project would involve placement of approximately 3.5 million cubic yards of material from Hillsboro Inlet to south County line along the beaches in southern Pompano, Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, northern and central Fort Lauderdale, John U. Lloyd Beach State Recreation Area, Dania Beach, Hollywood, and Hallandale Beach. In addition to the placement of sand on the beach, a series of T-head groins would be constructed along the northernmost  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile of John U. Lloyd State Recreation Area. Fill would be obtained from seven borrow areas located between hardbottom areas offshore of the central and northern portion of the County, in depths ranging from 30 feet to 70 feet, and located from  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles offshore. The method of dredging would be a hopper dredge. Rocks contained in the borrow material would be segregated on the hopper dredge and deposited in two offshore rock disposal areas, which are located within permitted artificial reef disposal areas. The material to be dredged and placed on the beach contains an average of 3.3% silt and 2.9% rock.

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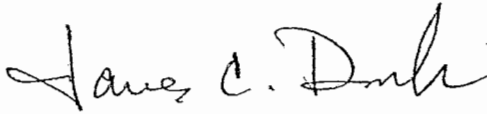
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We request your concurrence with our determination. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Ms. Yvonne Haberer at 904-232-1701.

Sincerely,



James C. Duck  
Chief, Planning Division

Copy Furnished:

✓ Mr. Stephen Higgins, Broward County, Beach Erosion Administrator, Department of Planning and Environmental Protection, 218 Southwest First Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Southeast Regional Office  
9721 Executive Center Drive North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33702  
(727) 570-5312, FAX 570-5517

F/SER3:JBM

MAR 10 2000

Mr. James C. Duck  
Chief, Planning Division  
Jacksonville District Corps of Engineers  
P.O. Box 4970  
Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019

Dear Mr. Duck:

This responds to your letter dated February 28, 2000 concerning the renourishment of 17.35 miles of coastline in Broward County, Florida. The proposed project will involve placement of approximately 3.5 million cubic yards of material from Hillsboro Inlet to south county line along the beaches in southern Pompano, Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, northern and central Fort Lauderdale, John U. Lloyd Beach State Recreation Area, Dania Beach, Hollywood, and Hallandale Beach. A hopper dredge will be used to obtain fill from borrow areas located  $\frac{3}{4}$  - to  $1\frac{1}{4}$ -miles offshore.

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) concurs with your determination of no adverse effects to listed species under NMFS purview if the terms and conditions of the biological opinion (BO), issued under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) by NMFS in 1995, and amended on September 25, 1997, are adhered to. These BOs analyzed the effects of hopper dredging in channels and borrow areas and concluded that their use would not jeopardize the continued existence of species of sea turtles protected by the ESA. NMFS believes the regional BOs adequately address the work being proposed by this project.

This concludes consultation responsibilities under section 7 of the ESA. Consultation should be reinitiated if new information reveals impacts of the identified activity that may affect listed species or their critical habitat, a new species is listed, the identified activity is subsequently modified or critical habitat determined that may be affected by the proposed activity.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Eric Hawk, fishery biologist, at the number listed above.

Sincerely,

*Charles A. Oran*

*for*

William T. Hogarth, Ph.D.  
Regional Administrator

cc: F/PR2  
F/SER4  
1514-22 f.1.  
O:\SECTION7\INFORMAL\BROWCTY.JAX





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Miami, FL 33133

**LATIN AMERICA &  
CARIBBEAN REGION**  
PMB 321  
703 Belt Road, Ramey  
Aguadilla, PR 00603-1333

April 12, 2000  
Operations Center

Keith J. Mille  
Florida Department of  
Environmental Protection  
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard  
Mail Station 300  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

RE: Broward County Beach  
Restoration, FDEP File 0163435-  
001-JC

Dear Mr. Mille:

In response to the application for a joint coastal permit for the above referenced beach renourishment projects comprising two segments of Broward County, Florida, which would bury numerous acres of coral habitat, ReefKeeper International presents the following comments, concerns, and requests:

- the amount of hardbottom and coral reefs impacted must be reduced;
- a complete Essential Fish Habitat assessment and consultation needs to be done;
- detailed hard bottom surveys are needed;
- proposed dredging buffer zones are inadequate;
- detailed construction plans and specifications must be submitted;
- the borrow areas need to be redesigned to minimize curves and turns;
- the shoreline mixing zone variance must be denied;
- adequate turbidity barriers and turbidity buffer zones must be included;
- night dredging must be prohibited;
- reef protection areas must be used;
- impacts from pipeline placement must be minimized;
- coral reef specific water quality requirements must be established;
- use of upland sand sources must be investigated;
- adequate monitoring must be conducted before, during, and after construction activities; and
- an adequate mitigation plan must be submitted.

ReefKeeper International, founded in 1989, is a non-profit conservation organization dedicated exclusively to the protection of coral reefs and their marine life. Since 1989, ReefKeeper International has

been working with the Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Environmental Protection, and county-level agencies in South Florida to prevent beach renourishment damage to coral habitats.

#### **Impacts to Hardbottom and Coral Reefs Must Be Reduced**

The project as proposed calls for the placement of approximately 4 million cubic yards of material, extending the beach hundreds of feet into the ocean along much of the shoreline of Broward County. The vast extent of the renourishment from the current shoreline only increases the adverse impacts to marine life from this project. Many acres of coral hardbottom will be destroyed by this project. This mass destruction of habitat is unacceptable.

Two marine protected areas have been proposed in Broward County, one between the Pompano fishing pier and the Lauderdale-By-The-Sea fishing pier, and a second area between the Dania fishing pier and Port Everglades. The proposed marine protected areas are within the boundaries of this beach renourishment project. Obviously, the proposed beach renourishment project destroys the very habitat for which protection is being sought.

Therefore, ReefKeeper International requests that the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) require that this project be reduced in size. Reducing the length of shoreline to be renourished will reduce the amount of hardbottom buried. A project smaller in width may necessitate more frequent renourishing but would also significantly decrease adverse environmental impacts. The potential costs and benefits of this must be examined. The potential use of sand dredged from nearby inlets may make smaller, more frequent renourishment activities both economically and environmentally more viable than the current proposed project.

#### **Complete EFH Assessment and Consultation Necessary**

The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council has declared live hardbottoms as Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) and Habitat Areas of Particular Concern (HAPC) for snapper and grouper species. These designations denote the incredible importance of these habitats to the survival of many fish species. Since the proposed project will impact numerous acres of HAPC, a complete EFH assessment and consultation is required by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

Therefore, ReefKeeper International requests that the applicant be required to complete an EFH assessment for submission to the National Marine Fisheries Service and the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council. ReefKeeper International requests that the project not be approved without first obtaining the approval of these two agencies.

#### **Current Detailed Surveys Are Required - Coral Reefs and Hardbottoms Are Present**

The seafloor near the shoreline and the proposed borrow areas contains significant coral reefs and hardbottom communities. Corals can grow as slowly as 1/5 to 1 millimeter per year (McConnaughey, 1983), with a knee-high coral head possibly being hundreds of

years old. These characteristically slow growth rates simply mean that scleractinian reef-building corals are not a renewable resource on a biological time scale but rather should be viewed on a geological time scale. Based upon the slow growth rates of these organisms, coral colonies, including recently established colonies, must not be put at risk of destruction from dredging and beach renourishment activities.

ReefKeeper International requests that current detailed mapping of all coral reefs and hardbottom areas near the proposed borrow sites, along the pipeline path, and along the shoreline to within 1000 feet seaward of the equilibrium toe of the fill be conducted to determine the current location and extent of these important features. This mapping must adequately characterize and quantify the bottom cover in the specific locations. This mapping must be completed prior to the evaluation of the permit application.

#### **Detailed Construction Plans and Specifications Must Be Required**

The applicant has not furnished detailed construction plans and specifications with the application package. The FDEP is charged to "protect, conserve and manage Florida's environment and natural resources." FDEP should not, and cannot, approve a construction permit without knowing exactly how that work will be carried out. The application provides far too little information upon which a decision can be based. The application fails to detail how the work will be conducted and what techniques will be utilized to minimize impacts.

General overview statements like those contained in the submitted permit application do not provide assurance that Florida's valuable marine resources will be protected or conserved. The lack of information also prevents organizations such as ReefKeeper International and concerned individuals from adequately commenting on the project prior to FDEP's approval of the project.

Therefore, ReefKeeper International requests that the FDEP require the applicant to submit detailed construction plans prior to approval or disapproval of the project. All necessary testing and modeling should be completed prior to final review of the project.

#### **Proposed Dredging Buffer Zones Are Inadequate**

Past experience shows that physical dredging damage does occur during beach renourishments. In fact, coral reefs are most damaged by dredging. Poorly planned and implemented dredging operations have caused the demise of many reefs. Straughan (1972) condemned dredging for the destruction of some Florida Keys reefs. Poor planning at a beach renourishment dredging project off Hallandale, Florida resulted in reef burial.

Blair and Flynn (1988) documented the destruction by direct dredge impact of 2 acres of coral reef at a previous beach renourishment project in the Sunny Isles area. In 1988, two acres of natural coral reef were damaged or destroyed by a dredge during the rebuilding of Miami's Sunny Isles Beach. The damage was depicted as some of the most severe reef destruction in modern South Florida history, according to Carlos Espinosa, then Chief of the Water Management Division of Dade County's Department of Environmental Resources Management.

### Reef Protection Zones Must Be Utilized

Dredging is not the only activity conducted during beach renourishments that has the potential to adversely impact coral reefs and hardbottom communities. Construction vessels can run aground or scrape corals as they maneuver to, from, and around the dredge site. Heavy anchors can destroy corals on which they land.

Therefore, ReefKeeper International requests that reef protection zones be required so that reefs and hardbottom habitats are further protected from non-dredging activities such as construction vessel movement, anchoring, and spudding. All of these non-dredging activities must be prohibited in reef protection zones to protect these fragile resources. The reef protection zones must establish a buffer of at least 200 feet between allowed activities and the coral reefs and hardbottom communities.

### Potential Habitat Destruction Due to Pipeline Placement Must Be Minimized

The presence of the sand pipeline on top of corals can damage, if not kill, these fragile marine organisms. Direct physical placement can crush corals and other reef organisms. The continued presence of the pipeline will shade corals, which are dependent upon sunlight for their survival.

ReefKeeper International requests that the applicant be required to provide specific drawing and details of the pipeline placement, including an evaluation of the potential adverse impacts by the pipeline. Quantification and a quality evaluation of any hardbottom habitat that would be covered must be included. If at all physically possible, damage must be avoided by routing the pipeline around corals -- or by using sand from a different source.

### Coral-Specific Water Quality Criteria Necessary

Hard corals in particular are susceptible to the effects of elevated levels of turbidity due to dredging (Dodge et al., 1974; Loya, 1976; Dodge and Vaisnya, 1977; Bak, 1978; Lasker, 1980; Marszalek, 1981; Rogers, 1983). High turbidity resulting from fine suspended particles generated by dredging decreases the amount of light -- a vital source of energy -- available to corals for the photosynthetic fixation of calcium carbonate (Johannes, 1975), thus reducing coral calcification (growth) rates (Lasker, 1980).

Turbidity also clogs the filter feeding mechanisms of coral polyps and causes continual energy losses by the necessity of continuous shedding of the protective mucus layer secreted by coral polyps (Lasker, 1980; Dallmayer et al., 1982).

Silt created by dredging remains in the local area for long periods and is resuspended during storms. Natural resuspension can also be compounded by the presence of silt fill discharged at the dredge site.

Moreover, sediments excavated by dredging are often anaerobic and bind up available dissolved oxygen. This forces reef organisms to increase respiration to remove silt, further lowering dissolved oxygen levels. Coupled with this increased respiration is reduced photosynthesis and oxygen production due to lowered light levels.

The dredging company had orders to draw sand from a strip of sea bottom between two reefs parallel to shore. Round the clock, seven days a week, a huge ship floated along the narrow corridor, sucking up sand.

Even though the dredging zone was established with dredging barge paths no closer than 200 feet to the nearest coral areas, this did not prevent the damage. The dredge strayed off its charted course and plowed as much as 150 feet into coral habitat without the dredge operators' knowledge of it. The dredge was pulled over the reef numerous times, in a path of destruction in some places 350 feet wide (Blair and Flynn, 1988). Even when chunks of broken coral began spewing out of the dredge suction pipe, the barge operators assumed it was relic material buried under the sand pocket they were working.

Errors and accidents do occur. They have in the past. And they will happen again if proper safeguards are not in place.

In 1990, the South Florida Regional Planning Council adopted as regional policy the prohibition of dredging or mining in the vicinity of coral reefs in Dade, Broward and Monroe counties. ReefKeeper International requests that, at a minimum, 600 foot wide buffer zones be established to prevent dredging in the vicinity of coral reefs. The applicant proposes buffer zones of only 200 feet, which have been clearly demonstrated in the past to be inadequate.

### Borrow Sites Must Be Redesigned To Minimize Turns and Corners

As proposed, the project includes a number of irregularly-shaped borrow areas. Borrow area II has over 40 corners or turns and borrow area VII has seventeen turns of 45 degrees or larger. There should be no more than four corners or turns required in the borrow areas to ensure that the dredge stays on its path. If the dredge operator were to misjudge just one of these turns, the dredge could collide with the reefs. The impact to the reefs could be catastrophic.

Therefore, ReefKeeper International requests that the borrow areas be redesigned to minimize the number of turns and corners required. The areas should be easily marked squares and rectangles to minimize the potential for dredging to occur outside of the borrow areas.

### Night Dredging Operations Must Be Prohibited

For economic and time constraint reasons, dredging is often conducted around the clock for beach renourishment projects. Past projects in South Florida have utilized lighted buoys that are often placed along the hardbottom areas to mark a dredge's path. However, these lighted buoys do not prevent the dredge from entering the coral areas or from damaging them. The lighted buoys give only a visual demarcation of the hardbottom.

ReefKeeper International requests that dredging activities for this project be limited to daytime operations only. The risks of the dredge straying off course and impacting hardbottom are too great to allow nighttime dredging to occur.

sources with the use of the high-risk offshore borrow areas. Such a comparison must clearly show and take into account all the operational savings attributable to the use of the upland sand source -- such as no mitigation cost and no offshore rock disposal cost -- as well as the added values accruing from higher quality sand, eliminated risks to reefs, and more.

#### **Monitoring Must Be Conducted**

Damage to coral reefs and hardbottom communities can only be detected if an adequate monitoring program is in place. Monitoring must be conducted before any dredging activities are initiated to determine the "baseline" conditions. Monitoring during the dredging is critical to identify problems and prevent additional damage. Monitoring after the dredging is complete is important in determining long-term impacts of the project.

ReefKeeper International requests that a monitoring program for the coral reefs and hardbottom communities be required. Monitoring must be conducted before, during, and after the project to adequately determine the impacts.

#### **Mitigation Plans Must Be Detailed**

The applicant has failed to outline any mitigation plans for the habitat destruction that will occur as a result of this proposed project. The applicant instead proposes to develop a mitigation plan at a later date.

ReefKeeper International requests that the applicant be required to develop mitigation plans before any approval of the project is granted. These mitigation plans should include a study of the feasibility of moving corals away from the shoreline, borrow areas, and buffer zones. Mitigation of hardbottom and coral reefs by clean concrete modules on a 1:1 basis should not be accepted since uninhabited concrete boulders do not serve the same ecological function as living reefs.

Thank you very much for your consideration, and anticipated support, of our requests to protect the fragile coral reefs and hardbottom communities of Broward County, Florida.

Sincerely,

*Diane M. Rielinger*

Diane M. Rielinger  
Senior Policy Associate  
ReefKeeper International

References  
Bak, R.P. M.  
1978. Lethal and sublethal effects of dredging on reef corals. Mar. Poll. Bull.  
9:14-16.

The usual result of chronic sedimentation is stressed corals susceptible to disease. The quantity of turbidity and the length of time required for exertion of its maximum stress effect is not known, but corals that are stressed expend essential symbiotic zooxanthellae and take on a pallid appearance prior to mortality (Goreau, 1964; Rogers, 1979; Glynn et al., 1984). Generally, mortality ensues within six weeks of such reactions.

Therefore, ReefKeeper International requests that criteria specifically responsive to coral reef water quality requirements be included as a specific permit requirement. Consideration of water quality requirements for corals will help prevent "unforeseen" negative impacts and will allow for the establishment of water quality criteria that are appropriate for the ecosystem.

#### **Mixing Zone Variance Must Be Denied - Turbidity Buffer Zones and Turbidity Barriers Must Be Required**

The applicant states that a shoreline mixing zone variance will likely be requested and acknowledges that construction turbidity plumes will likely extend outside of the longshore mixing zone. This means that more corals and nearshore hardbottoms will be buried.

Poor planning at a beach renourishment dredging project off Hallandale, Florida resulted in reef burial and water quality problems (Courtenay et al. 1974). The 1980 beach renourishment project at Bal Harbour resulted in catastrophic sedimentation burial of coral reef areas near the dredging site (Blair et al., 1990). Similar destruction may occur as a result of this proposed project.

Given the history of adverse turbidity impacts during dredging projects and the severe damage to corals that results from poor water quality, ReefKeeper International requests that FDEP deny any request for a mixing zone variance and require that turbidity levels not exceed applicable standards more than 150 meters from the discharge point.

ReefKeeper International further requests that the use of turbidity buffer zones and turbidity barriers be required both along the shoreline and at the borrow sites. These measures must be incorporated into the project to minimize and monitor turbidity loads over the coral reefs and hardbottom communities and to prevent fatal turbidity impacts to those coral reefs. Researchers have recommended buffer zones of up to half-a-nautical-mile to protect coral reefs from dredging situation (Griffin 1974; Courtenay et al. 1974).

#### **Availability of Upland Sand Sources Must Be Evaluated**

Upland sources of sand in Florida can provide medium to fine grained quartz sand. Upland sources have the benefits of not requiring the separation and disposal of larger-sized particles, reducing overfill and improving turbidity conditions at the deposition site due to its lower silt content, eliminating any environmental risks and impacts to offshore coral reef areas from dredging, and eliminating the need to mitigate.

ReefKeeper International requests that the applicant fully evaluate the availability and economic feasibility of using sand from upland sources. There must be a full presentation, comparative analysis and accounting that equitably compares the use of these upland sand

B. -AIRE BEACH APARTMENTS

Craig McAdams  
1800 North Broadwalk  
Hollywood, Florida 33019  
(954)328-1742

April 28, 2000

Re: Permit application #199905545(IP-DSG)

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I am not in favor of having beach replentishment as indicated in the permit requested by BROWARD COUNTY. It is my opinion that the damage to the marine environment far exceeds the temporary benefit of extending the beach area. As a hotel owner directly on Hollywood Beach for the past 40 years and licensed ship captain for 28 years, I have based my opinion on my experience and observations both here and worldwide.

The fact is that Hollywood Beach is bigger now than it was naturally before the first beach renourishment. The attempts to build too close to the ocean have created the problems that exist today. The cost in dollars and damage to the marine life far exceeds the temporary condition of a wide beach from dredging. This is not "beach restoration" as the beach never was like that in the history of the city or my lifetime. Beachfront property is very valuable and I can understand the strong disire by those to create some, but the waterline always wants to return to it's natural location. The large buildings that have been built too close to the ocean have created an accelleration of erosion and this practice should be forbidden.

Experience will show that some structures will enhance the erosion and care needs to be taken before installing underwater device that can do more damage that benefit the conditions. Mother nature has a way of getting her way in the end and I believe that natural is best. My main concern is for the sealife and the damage caused by this project. Please reject it.

Sincerely,

  
Craig McAdams

2202 Bay Drive  
Pompano Beach, Florida 33062  
Phone & Fax: (954) 781-7356  
e-MAIL [JohnSolent2202@Yahoo.com](mailto:JohnSolent2202@Yahoo.com)



Ms. Dianne S. Griffin  
Dept. of the Army  
Jacksonville District Corps of Engineers  
Regulatory Div., South Permits Branch  
P.O. Box 4970  
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

May 5, 2000

RE: Permit Application No. 199905545 (IP-DSG)

Dear Ms. Griffin:

I am in receipt of multiple copies of your Public Notice for beach renourishment. Your several page description of the area to be filled using monuments disturbs me, in addition to surveyor's lingo to describe where it is you intend to fill. Why do you not tell us in terms we understand? Why did you intentionally leave out who is paying for this? Surely, all the taxpayers receiving this Notice are not going to pay for sand and harm to the environment for the benefit of a few condos (Renaissance) who built too close to the seashore with DNR approval.

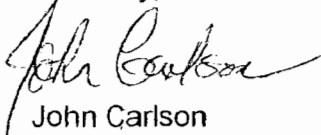
How did the Corps determine that the project would affect, but not likely *adversely* affect, the West Indian manatee? Please supply your research on this issue. Regarding marine sea turtles to which I believe the state has finally given some priority, your Notice states: "The Corps has determined the project would may affect, but not likely adversely affect these species. The applicant (Broward County) wishes to work during turtle nesting season." Exactly how did you determine that a pregnant turtle swimming to her nesting place on the beach would be willing to dodge your dredge, pipeline and spillway on the very beach she had in mind to lay her eggs? And how did you determine that such turmoil would not "adversely" affect each and every pregnant turtle? What do you expect all these turtles to do? Detour?

How is it that your final determination of impacts on shrimp, lobsters, various fish and coral reefs will be made after consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service, yet you are already to proceed without even so much as a public hearing or contacting this Service in advance? You also state your "initial review of the proposal indicates it will have impacts on essential habitat." I question why you would proceed with this plan knowing you are *intentionally* damaging essential habitats? Please also address this issue.

If I am not mistaken, I am still paying in Hillsboro Beach taxes, a five-year amortization of beach renourishment since 1998 which has all but washed away and been delivered to the Hillsboro Inlet where I am charged again to pump the inlet clear of sand which was redelivered to Pompano which is currently washing downstream to Fort Lauderdale at no charge. Is this by chance the area you intend to fill?

Your clarification of this important matter is urgently requested and, yes, a public hearing is requested.

Sincerely,

  
John Carlson

Rec'd  
9 May 2000  
78



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Southeast Regional Office  
9721 Executive Center Drive N.  
St. Petersburg, Florida 33702  
(727) 570-5317, FAX 570-5300

May 15, 2000

F/SER4:MT:am

Colonel Joe R. Miller  
District Engineer, Jacksonville District  
Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers  
Regulatory Division, South Permits Branch  
P.O. Box 4970  
Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019

Dear Colonel Miller:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has reviewed the Public Notice 199905545 (IP-DSG) dated April 26, 2000. The applicant, Broward County, proposes to renourish 11.9 miles of beach on the Atlantic Ocean from Pompano Beach to Hallendale, Broward County, Florida.

In accordance with the Memorandum of Agreement between our agencies, we hereby request an extension of 30 days to provide our comments to you. The impacts from the proposed project to nearshore hard bottom reef habitats are anticipated to be approximately 37 acres, and will utilize seven borrow areas for fill material. The NMFS, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and the Corps of Engineers are scheduled to meet in an interagency meeting on the project in Miami on May 18, 2000, followed by an on-site inspection of the nearshore hard bottom habitats on May 19, 2000. The extension of the comment period is necessary for us to fully and accurately evaluate the impacts that the proposed project will have on NMFS trust resources.

If we can be of further assistance, please advise. Related comments, questions or correspondence should be directed to Michael R. Johnson in Miami. He may be contacted at 305-595-8352 or at the letterhead address above.

Sincerely,

William T. Hogarth, Ph.D.  
Regional Administrator



Rec'd  
17 MAY 2000  
CJ



**Richard M. Gappen**  
11636 NW 5th Street  
Plantation, FL 33325  
Fax 954-424-8103  
Home Phone 954-424-7966  
Email neetsieg@mediaone.net

May 22, 2000

District Engineer  
Jacksonville District Corps of Engineers  
P.O. Box 4970  
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

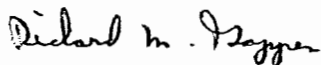
RE: BROWARD COUNTY BEACH RESTORATION  
PERMIT APPLICATION #199905545

I have been scuba diving from the beaches of Broward County since 1976. This is probably the only area in the United States where you can walk off the beach and dive on a living coral reef.

The fact that the above permit states that 37 acres of near shore reef will be destroyed by beach restoration is absolutely not acceptable. I cannot recall any beach restoration project that we have had here that has had any measure of success. The water clarity is usually ruined during the renourishment and the sand recedes back into the ocean during the next rough weather.

I support everything that Reefkeeper International has requested in their letter to Mr. Keith J. Mille, which is attached. I, along with other divers like me, sincerely hope that you will not go ahead with this project.

Very truly yours,



Richard M. Gappen

Enclosure

RMG:agg

Rec'd  
25 May 00  
CJ